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Merit Award Scholarship Promise Kept

LANSING – To keep the promise of granting the Michigan Merit Award Scholarship for eligible college freshmen, the Senate today took up legislation sponsored by Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom, R-Norton Shores, to extend the deadline until November 15 this year to certify MEAP results.

“Students who have earned the Merit Award Scholarship through their hard work and dedication in school should not be penalized due to the delay in the release of the MEAP scores,” Van Woerkom said. “The award represents a promise made to all high school students who performed well on the MEAP test. Extending the deadline to certify results for an two additional month will ensure that the promise is kept and that all students who earned the scholarship are rewarded.”

Senate Bill 701 extends the date by which a college freshman must certify his or her Merit Award score from September 15 to November 15 for this year only.

Delays in the release of the MEAP test this summer have left many college freshmen awaiting notification of whether they qualify for the Merit Award Scholarships.

SB 701 was passed under General Orders today. This issue has been the topic of multiple committee hearings in the Senate Education Committee of which Senator Van Woerkom is a member.

Note: Audio comments and a video clip from Sen. Van Woerkom on SB 701 are available on the Michigan Senate Republican Audiowire, located at www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/audiowire/.

A downloadable photograph of Sen. Van Woerkom is also available on the Senate Majority Photowire, located at www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/.